

N62604.AR.000407
NCBC GULFPORT
5090.3a

FACT SHEET 9 FOR GOLF COURSE LANDFILL SITE 4 NCBC GULFPORT MS
4/1/1995
NCBC GULFPORT



NAVAL CONSTRUCTION BATTALION CENTER Gulfport, Mississippi Installation Restoration Program



The Installation Restoration (IR) program is an environmental program conducted nationwide by the Department of Defense to identify and address contamination from past practices which do not meet today's environmental standards. This fact sheet is the ninth in a series informing interested citizens about the IR program at NCBC Gulfport. Fact sheets will be produced at program milestones and in response to other items of public interest. Distribution is coordinated through the Public Affairs Office at NCBC Gulfport, telephone: (601) 871-2393.

FACT SHEET 9: Site 4, Golf Course Landfill

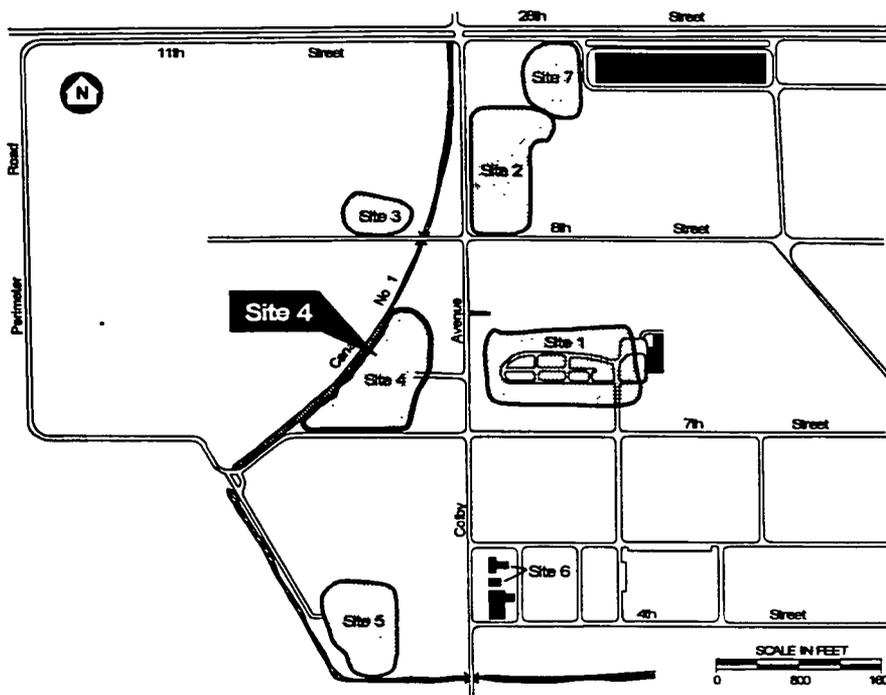


Exhibit 1. Site 4 is located northwest of the intersection of Seventh Street and Canal No. 1.

DESCRIPTION OF SITE 4

Site 4 is a former 4-acre landfill. As the only landfill operating between 1966 and 1972, almost all waste produced by the Seabee Center was disposed at this site.

About 16,000 tons of solid materials and approximately 200,000 gallons of liquids (such as paints, paint thinners, waste fuels, and solvents) were placed in the landfill. The materials were routinely burned and the ash was buried in

trenches within the landfill. Rubble from Hurricane Camille (1969) was also placed in this landfill. Ten feet of soil was placed over the former landfill, which is now part of the Seabee Center's golf course.

PRIOR INVESTIGATIONS

Initial Assessment Study (IAS): The IAS was completed in 1985. The IAS included interviewing people with information about former

base activities and reviewing records to determine if further environmental investigation was needed. Site 4 was recommended for further study.

Verification Study: The Verification Study was completed in 1987. This study used specialized (geophysical) equipment to find the boundary of the landfill. In addition, the following samples were collected:

- three samples from groundwater wells and
- one surface water and sediment sample

Chromium and lead samples were found in the sediment and groundwater samples at Site 4. These metals are naturally occurring and are, therefore, commonly found in soil and groundwater samples.

Basewide Sampling: A sampling program was performed throughout the entire base in 1994. As part of this investigation, groundwater samples were collected at Site 4 and analyzed for the chemicals described in Exhibit 2.

Preliminary results of the groundwater samples found low levels of volatile and semivolatile organic compounds, pesticides, metals, and dioxins. Three metals, arsenic, lead, and thallium, and one dioxin were found to be higher than Federal standards.

These findings were reported immediately to the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality and the Gulfport community. A technical evaluation of the results has not yet been completed to determine if these low concentrations of substances are a health or environmental concern.

WHAT'S NEXT FOR SITE 4?

The next step in the investigation of Site 4 is an in-depth geophysical survey to locate buried drums. Geophysical surveys use specialized equipment (similar to metal detectors used at the beach) to locate objects or other disturbances beneath the ground.

Another step in the IR program process is to complete an in-depth environmental study, called a Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (often referred to as an RI/FS).

The Remedial Investigation includes collection and evaluation of environmental data. An assessment of potential ecological and human health effects of chemicals found through data collection is part of this evaluation. The Feasibility Study is an engineering evaluation of the best methods for cleaning up the site.

EXHIBIT 2. WHAT DID WE LOOK FOR IN THE BASEWIDE SAMPLING PROGRAM?

Metals include naturally occurring elements such as copper, arsenic, and lead. Household items that commonly contain metals include paint, batteries, coins, and electrical components.

Herbicides are chemicals used to kill unwanted plants and weeds. Common herbicides include Round-Up[™] and 2,4-D.

Pesticides are chemicals to eliminate insects and other pests. Flea collars, roach and ant killers, and household plant and garden sprays all contain pesticides.

Volatile organic compounds, also known as VOCs, include solvents, paint thinner, and mineral spirits. Other household products that usually contain VOCs include hair spray, nail polish remover, and air fresheners. Common components of gasoline, such as benzene, toluene, and xylene, are VOCs.

Semivolatile organic compounds, also known as SVOCs, are a common component of asphalt, coal tar, and pitch. A good example of a naturally occurring SVOC is naphthalene, which is the main ingredient in many furniture refinishing products.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

All reports discussed in the fact sheet are available at the NCBC Gulfport IR Program Information Repository located in the:

Gulfport Harrison County Library
Reference Section
21st Avenue (Highway 90)
Gulfport, MS 39501
Telephone: (601) 863-6411